

Several months ago, when I first learned the Navy planned to reduce the number of military housing units in North Chicago, I got to work on a plan to protect our local communities, safeguard our education system and respect our military families. I am very proud to report the plan worked and the results are incredible: a public-private housing venture opening up lakefront property to developers and creating a new tax base for our local schools; [a commitment from the Department of Education](#) that North Chicago schools will receive the highest level of "impact aid" through at least 2010; an opportunity to work with our senators to find a long-term solution to this national problem. I want to thank our local elected officials for their cooperation in this effort and I look forward to working as a team in protecting our local schools and communities.